GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:768
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
CONVERSION OF FOREST LAND
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from any of the State Governments seeking permission for conversion of forest land into revenue villages ;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status thereof ;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has recommended conversion of forest land into revenue land as also rights on forest land/produce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)&(b) The proposals for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages has been received from 5 States, namely,Madhya Pradesh,Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttaranchal and Chhattisgarh. So far, total 511 forest villages, which include 315 forest villages of Madhya Pradesh, 73 forest villages in Maharashtra, 112 forest villages in Gujarat and 11 forest villages in Uttaranchal have been given permission for conversion into revenue villages.

(c)&(d) No Sir. However, the Ministry has issued guidelines in 1990 for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages, for regularization of eligible encroachments and for settlement of disputed claims on forest land.